A TENDER GREETING AND SALUTATION

Of Perfect Love and Life of truth, to the Children of the Kingdom.

From a Brother and living Witness, and fellow-servant and companion of the Election, and of the Churches of Christ, gathered by and through the Power and Ministration of the Eternal Spirit of the Lord Jesus, out of the World, into Covenant with God and his Christ, over all blessed, over all for ever, *Amen*. In which Grace and peace be multiplied and abound to every member of the infinite Body of which Christ is Head. *Amen*, for ever.

My Friends, ye Babes and Children of Life, of pure innocency, of immortality brought to light, that's clear and marvellous in our eye, that's single, pure holy, unchangeable (without variableness) in which the perfect love of the eternal riches of the everlasting Gospel, and glorious power of an endless Life, and its perfect, unspeakable, blessed unity and fellowship of us with the Father, with the Son, and one with another, in one and the self-same holy Spirit of Faith, and Vertue, and Sanctification standeth well, entire and compleat in the pleasure of the Lord God, according to the proportion of the faith of *Abraham*, in the election dispensed to us, and in every of us received unto salvation, unto whom the Heavenly Divine Power from on high is come and given (even unto us) bountifully, with the precious things or riches that's durable and invaluable, treasures which pertain to

life and godlineſs more or leſs, according to the wiſdom of God the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and through the manifold diſpenſations of his eternal loving-kindneſſes hath he manifeſted himſelf, and made known the good pleaſures of his Will towards, in, by and through the revelation, manifeſtation and miniſtration of his unſpotted Life, which all witneſſeth and teſteth record both of the Father and of the Son, in one Word that changeth not in us, but is the ſame as in the beginning, and before all things, and cannot alter or vary, but remaineth in its own entire, unfathomable, unlimited, boundleſs godneſs and holineſs, which endureth forever, who hath called me with his Eternal Word of Life, of Holineſs, and by the ſame hath wounded and killed, quickened and made alive, to his glory and virtue, with endleſs praiſes in perfect love, in which is no fear that worketh evil or torment but that which worketh good unto edification and perfection. And oh how hath the ſame abounded towards you my dear Friends! And how hath the diſtillings from God's right hand (of mercy and goodneſs) where the Son is, that hath made your very hearts glad in the ſavour of his holy Spirit (the Comforter) ſo that it hath been unexpreſſible to demonſtrate the truth of this what your immortal ſouls have met with, and been made partakers of under the peaſe ſence of his unſpeakable love, by his righteous Judgements and Mercies, who hath ſought and called, and found you that were gone aſtray and even loſt in obſcurity, as were without hope of any recovery, in the alienation from the Life of God; yea even as exhiled captives, aliens and ſtrangers from the unchangeable Covenant of promiſe that's ſure to the Seed of the eternal Inheritance of the purchaſed poſſeſſion, the ſame hath now ſo ordained for you that believ in the Name of the Lord God of immortality before the foundation of the World, to the end that ye may be heirs together with him that is one with the Father, who hath drawn with the Cords of his Love, by which the bonds of wickedneſs have been burſt aſſunder, and the Cords of your ſins which have entangled you in captivity, theſe have been broken, and iniquities that are paſt have been finiſhed and blotted out by the ariſing and coming of the juſt one, with his unſpeakable refreſhings of his glorious power, even as the morning-lights of a clear day, yea with ſuch like healing and vertuous refreſhings of the Son of Righteouſneſſe hath he come, that expels the corruptible darkneſſe that hath oppreſt and covered the earth, ſo that by its divine, pure and powerful operation, in the ſtilneſſe

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of your subjection to the same Ordinance that's of God Eternal which he hath ordained to subdue contrarieties, and they come to be done away hereby, the Crosse that extends peace, as a River of flowing streams to the poor, on the needy, the hungry and thirsty, to revive & replenish the contrite in heart by the very same which shall its saving health and sanctifying virtue to every plant and green thing, to every Tree that buds and blossomes, and bears fruit, according to the goodnesse and pleasure of the end of the good Husbandman, that well rejoiceth over the choice Vines, and Vinyards, and Gardens of the pleasure of his right hand, where the River streams that makes glad the beloved City of my God, and his pleasant Plants add no sorrow unto his soul, but he well-delighteth in them, and taketh pleasure in them that fear him, and keep their habitations in the first love, and behold his mercy and goodnesse is over them as a lovely banner, and comely Ornament of praise; and his fear seated in your hearts yet more abundantly manifest in the sight of the Nations, the same shall be a sure defence to preserve you unto his Heavenly Kingdom of all fulness (without limitation.) What if I say to some, My Babes (and universally to all, My Friends, my Brethren, my Sisters) to you are these sayings spoken? And what if I say of the Loveling of my heart, Verily mine eye hath wel affected mine heart, and I am in perfect love and unity with every of you that love the Lord, and obey his unchangeable truth and name, and suffer for it more or less? Well, J cannot but tel you on this wise, that J heartily love you in the same, in no other thing, or name, or word, or life, or what else, but in the very thing in which we are Witnesses of in its dispensations, not only of salvation, but also of condemnation, in their time and seasons; and because the same love with which the testimony of my Conscience giveth a good evidence to my understanding that J am beloved of my God, the same well aboundeth in my very heart to ye, ye faithful of the Lord; therefore do J send you herewith the greetings of the same kindness to your edification, in the same love by which your most holy Faith worketh, that together with me herein your pure minds by way of remembrance may be stirred up in one spirit to bless and praise the living Lord, as it becometh Saints in Light, and hereby to be the more abundantly quickened unto all wel-pleasing in the pure presence, in his Light of his countenance that shines over you for good; and J say and exhort you in the very self-same Spirit of faith and love, to lay aside, and put far away from you whatsoever would

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vail or separate from this unalienable love and goodness, virtue and peace of Christ which passeth knowledge, and with all readiness of mind, as it becometh the Election, under the perfect sence of this unspeakable love and blessed fear of the Lord, to give all diligence to meet in the same power of life and virtue, and keep to meetings in the Heavenly Order, to wait upon the Lord in his mercy & fear only overshadowing of you, that the holy eternal strength & comeliness of the Lord's beauty may adorn you, thereby to be revived in the loveliness of your souls shining upon you, and surrounding your Tabernacles, and that the comfort of the blessed stedfast Spirit of Truth in the Life of the Orost of Jesus, together with the renewings of the Holy Ghost, you may receive the same in all your Meetings, to every of you your particular and everlasting satisfaction, and assured confidence in the holy faith and patience of the Saints in Light (without doubting,) and so your fruit may abound unto holiness, and the end of the same ye may receive even immediately from the right hand of God, which is eternal life, and this is the end of your blessed confirmation of your most holy Faith in every particular, and in your blessed Assemblies, so that ye know the Way and the Truth undoubtedly, wherein ye may precious receive of his fulness from the bountiful hand of Eternal Life, which is not hid from you (as in times past) the which comes immediately from God, the clear and unfathomable Fountain of all fulness, and lives for ever in the holy Seed of lasting righteousness, which is revealed and come very nigh us, the which breaths and maketh intercession in the acceptation of that which is holy and spiritual, without spot to God.

To this end my very dear Friends, my tenderly beloved in God, the Spirit of Love and of the fear of the Lord is upon me to put you in remembrance of these things that are one and the same with the beginning of your Faith, in the Truth and Love that's perfect, sound and pure, that neither thinketh nor worketh evil; behold this is the excellent Way that tends to edifie the whole Body, and every particular Member receiveth strength, life and virtue, in unity with the Head Christ, the Seed, the Stone that's precious, the Rock and saving-health, even the Foundation of God that standeth sure, and is over his own House also in the great Mystery of God, whose House are we, if immovably we abide faithful, holding fast the good beginning of our confidence in the Head Christ, firm unto the end: However we know God's Foundation it standeth sure, and this ye

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know that if we should deny him either in the fellowship of his sufferings unto which we have been called with holiness, and so not to confess him (through the same) before men, yet he without doubting or controversie in any wise cannot deny himself, albeit a Cloud receives him out of the sight of many, who shall not see his face till they say (who have pierced him) *Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord*; yea, and my Spirit shall gladly say, Even so *Amen*: Come Lord Jesus, come quickly, that the afflicted and upright in heart may languish no more; but triumph in glory, and be filled with gladness of heart in perfect quietness in their expected end, for which my soul (as a Dove) often mourneth, travelling in love through distresses, often distressed for thy sake, oh thou whose Renown is from everlasting, and thy memorial shall never end, that thou maist be raised up on high over all, to be a Royal Diadem in the hand of thy mighty God; my soul longeth for this with many Brethren; lo we travel in pain often for thy sake, thou Royal Seed of Nobles, the loveliness of thy Progenitors, the Heavens are dissolved with unspeakable love, and the Heavenly Hosts, behold how they travel in order for the brightness of thy rising over all Nations, that thy Dominions, and the largeness of thy unlimited extent thou maist possess, as is meet, that the sons of Nobles, and Daughters of eternal Renown, with Kings in glory may rejoice in thy fame; and feed thee with the purest of good things, even the Heritage of *Jacob* thy Father; and for thy sake, oh thou loveliness of my heart, how often am I undone for thee! The Brethren and stiplings of my Father's House, how dearly do they love thee? how willingly are we overcom with thy loveliness to suffer even for thy sake! Shall I break forth in mourning? or shall I take up a doleful lamentation for many that have loved thee a little season, till somewhat obscured their eye, and their back-parts is towards thee? Oh! alas! alas! yea wo and alas for them! Oh! I have travelled in pain night and day for their sakes, insomuch I could even cry aloud and roar as a Lyonness bereaved of her young; the ecchо might reach the Heavens to be astonished at this, as in the ancient days when *Israel* himself wrought folly, and hewed out Cisterns imperfect, being departed from the Fountain, Wherefore let all hear and fear, because the mighty day of the Lord is great, and the tryal and travel of the Lot of his inheritance is no less, and the sence and weighty sence of these things boweth my heart and soul even to death before the Lord often, so that I know many brethren on this wise travel, and

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pure innocency is ready to cry out, being dissolved into pure virtue in its travel, saying, Lord, how long? how long Lord? shall it be always thus? Surely no, saith the answer of my God, the many days of thy travel and mourning shall have an end, and thy Work shall be rewarded; neither shall the renown and fame of my people be extinguished, but encrease as the Sun and Moon in their course and order, from generation to generation; and I am the Lord their God, in faithfulness and truth, without variableness, and so they are, and for ever shall be my people, their Dominion from sea to sea shall extend without limitation, and the borders of wickedness as chaff and dust under the soles of their feet, shall not hurt them, the pure Breath of Life Eternal hath spoken it, by the living Word of the Lord that shall stand for ever. Wherefore be not dismayed nor cast down with over-much sorrow, though thy travels be not a little; in the mighty strength of thy God, oh thou afflicted and beloved of my soul, thine eye shall perfectly behold *Jerusalem* (the *Mount Sion* of my God,) with her free-born compleatly established, the lovely and desirable praise of the whole earth; yea, and more then is lawful to be uttered. Wherefore yet be bold and valiant, and put on courage, with the lovely Armor of eternal salvation, ye sons, ye harmless sons and daughters of *Sion*; Lamb, that bears the weighty iniquities, and finisheth the same, and taketh them away; and cloaths his people with his Name, and with the lovely Garments of Praise, and opens the healing Fountain of Wisdom from above, in the holy Spirit of the Lord's fear, which preserves through many tribulations; and then he like a good shepherd leads to the living Fountains of Water, where the weary and thirsty are well satisfied, under the light and shadow of his countenance that sits in the midst of the Throne, who saith, *I will give freely to him that is a-thirst*; therefore the Spirit and the Bride saith, Come, with him that heareth and is a-thirst, as is the Message of the Angel to the Churches, and not to the fearful and unbelieving; and to you ye beloved of the Lord that retain your first Love, is my very heart open in the same, and therefore the more am I enlarged to write: Wherefore my dearly beloved, be like-minded, let the same unchangeable mind be in you, and abound, that dwells in the holy Seed without change or shadow of turning, that's both sure and peaceable, without fraud or guile, and is watchful for good, and not for evil, that in his strength who wisely maketh all Grace to abound in every good word and work, ye may stand firm and unblameable, and compleat

pleat before him in love, which is the end and beginning of all Ministrations that accompanieth the Divine Power which God Eternal hath made known to you; and the holy and effectual operation of the same Gospel of peace more or less, my God that liveth for ever hath made known, and honored you withal; what if I say more over and above all the Families of the Earth?

Wherefore, oh ye blessed of the Lord, forget not his pure sayings in the ancient days, spoken by the same Life, to the same Seed, of which you are united and made partakers, ye that tremble at his Word; your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my Names sake, said, *Let the Lord be glorified*; but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed; while ye may say, Oh Lord, I will praise thee; though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortest me. Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust, and not be afraid; for the Lord Jehovah is my strength: &c. Wherefore with joy shal ye draw water out of the wells of Salvation. Oh how has your Light arisen out of obscurity! you whose soul has been revived and drawn out to the hungry and to the afflicted soul; has been well satisfied with thee and thy bountifulness, thou blessed Seed of the Lord's annointing; he shall guide thee continually, and satisfie thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones, and thou shalt be like a watered Garden, whose waters fail not; for your sake are these who are arrayed in white, having past through many tribulations, following the Lamb (through the same) then he leads to living Fountains opened for the House of *David*, whose Tabernacle is raised up for the tribes of the Lord's annointing, and the dispersed of *Israel*, the inhabitants of *Sion*, the Mountain of holiness in *Jerusalem*; that's free, with her inhabitants, true *Israelites* indeed, in whose mouth is no guile, my soul is knit unto ye. Well, I have much within my heart to say of the goodness, and mercy, and righteous Judgements of the Lord God of truth, which are more precious then fined shining Gold, & blessed is the man that's made a partaker hereof, and keeps them, the fear of my God as a beautiful Crown of Wisdom's Life, shall be his goodly treasure, to preserve him from the power of the sword, which shall devour the Adversaries that refuse and rebel against the Light and Counsel of my God. His saving-health shall not be hidden from thine eye, O thou tender, upright, mourning Plant, and branch of Righteousness, the days of thy mourning shall have an end in thy beloved, thy expected end, and his bowels of mercy and tender pity shall not be estranged any more at all from thee, thou beloved seed of pure innocency, that has heard the joyful sound, the voice of thy beloved, Lo, thy Companions, the Children of thy Father's House shall joy in the Lord, and well rejoice in the Holy One of *Israel*, because of thee and thy faithfulness to thy mighty God, and tell of his wondrous works, and talk of the power of his might, in whose mouth never any guile was found; such a true *Israelite*, such a High Priest becomes us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sin and sinners, that offered up himself without spot to God through the eternal Spirit of sanctification. Let every member feel and partake of the same virtue in the Election; feel and savour the same dwell in them, and run through them, to the purifying of your hearts, as is meet in the Lord, that spirit; the eternal riches and blessings has been hid in the same from ages and generations; my heart witheth they may all abound with the mercies of God the Father of our Lord Jesus, to every of you in his life, who is risen from the dead, and from their Congregations, and lives and reigns in the lively Witnesses of his death and resurrection, to whom with the Father be eternal glory and reverence, power and might, with endless praises and ever-

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everlasting Dominion in all, and through all that love his appearance in the unchangeable Light of his countenance; and so over all be thanksgivings, *Amen*. And let the upright in heart say so; and behold they, even they that are yet afar off, shall come up to *Sion* the holiness of my beloved, with songs of deliverance, making melody because of the perfect beauty and glory of my *God*, which hath shined upon them that fear him, and behold him face to face; yea, and the loveliness of my heart, the Seed of the blessed, the joy of many generations, and the desire of the Nations of peace and plenty, he shall come that will come, and not tarry, with his reward in his right hand in the bright Heavenly Clouds, and lo they shall distil and drop down new Wine, with the early and latter rain of vertuous righteousness upon the tender plants and trees of virtue, planted and seated within the Garden of immortality; and the tender Babes and Children of the Kingdom of eternal life shall with joy unspeakable rejoice in the abundant fulness of the glory of the Lord, that's King of *Sion*, in *Jerusalem* that's free from above, because of the abundance of peace and truth, and unutterable virtue, and sanctifying riches of the everlasting Fountain of Eternity that's opened in *Sion*'s holy Hill, and its streams purely descend and issue forth to the ends of the earth, to fetch thy sons from far, and thy daughters from the Lyons dens, & from the *Mountains* of the *Leopards*, to worship the *Lord* the King, the Holy One of *Israel*, who teacheth his people, children that will not lye; and they that are not, shall say as in the ancient days, *Come* oh House of *Jacob*, come let us go up to the Mountain of the Lords House, he wil teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; and lo their faces shall shine with pure innocency that come to live under the hiding of his power, under the shadowing of the stedfast spirit of glory, of the fear of the Lord, which shall cover them as a very lovely garment of praise without, but the glory shall excel within where uprightness, innocency and pure integrity to its first Love liveth & is preserved in the inner Court, (which looketh Eastward towards the sun rising) of the beauty of holiness, without guile, in the pleasure of the Lord, at whose right hand the River streams, and so the lovely seed of his annointing shall flourish and bear much fruit, and shoot forth its branches, and spread abroad its faithful fruitful bows over the lovely Walls of salvation of the City of my God; so he that overcometh, shall inherit all things. And so blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection over such the second death shall have no power, as saith the Angel to the Churches; These sayings are faithful and true, and holy; and blessed is he that reads and lives in the integrity and faithfulness of the God of *Abraham*, to the end, and in the same do I commend every of you to whom I write, in the Covenant of Eternity to be preserved stedfast and entire to the beginning, the sure Foundation of God Eternal, who is the Light, and *Life*, and glory, and everlasting strength and beauty of the Election, in whom from everlasting to everlasting he is to be glorified; and so let him be praised who is that eternal unchangeable spirit of pure and matchless substance and virtue Divine, even God blessed for ever, *Amen* and *Amen*.

Worcester City-Gaol for the Testimony of Jesus, and Word of God, and his pure way of Worship, a Prisoner this third Month, the 12th day, 1663.

Daniel Baker.

THE END.